

Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01
INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 SP-02
SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 AF-10 ARA-10 NEA-10 OIC-02
/163 W

-----108257 232003Z /47

P 231903Z MAR 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7629
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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USMTN

USEEC

ACTION STR FOR GREENWALD, FEKETEKUTY

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, MTN
SUBJECT: FRAMEWORK--INFORMAL PLURILATERAL ON EXPORT
CONTROLS "UNDERSTANDING"

REF: A) GENEVA 3720, B) STATE 068543

1. U.S. MTN DEL MET INFORMALLY WITH EC, JAPAN, NORDICS
AND SWISS MARCH 16 TO DISCUSS MTN DEL DRAFT "UNDERSTANDING"
ON EXPORT-CONTROL MEASURES. ALL PARTICIPANTS AGREED ON
URGENCY OF DEALING WITH SUBJECT WITHIN MTN TIME-FRAME,
AND WELCOMED U.S. DRAFT AS POSSIBLE BASIS FOR DISCUSSION.
(FIRST DRAFT HAND-CARRIED MARCH 11 TO GREENWALD, STR,
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AND SUBSEQUENTLY REVISED--SEE PARA 3 BELOW. REVISED DRAFT
GIVEN TO GREENWALD IN BRUSSELS, MARCH 17.)

2. U.S. (MARK) STRESSED INFORMAL, EVEN TENTATIVE NATURE
OF DRAFT AND EXPLAINED THAT CURRENT WASHINGTON THINKING
ON SUBJECT LEANS TOWARD "MODEST" APPROACH AIMED AT CLARIFI-
CATION OF EXISTING GATT RULES AND PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES.

JAPAN (UKAWA) NOTED ON PERSONAL BASIS THAT ECONOMIC JUSTIFICATION FOR AN EXPORT-CONTROLS UNDERSTANDING MAY BE MARGINAL BUT, IN POLITICAL TERMS, "AN MTN PACKAGE WITHOUT SOMETHING ON SUPPLY WOULD PROBABLY BE UNACCEPTABLE" IN TOKYO. UKAWA ALSO HINTED THAT JAPANESE PROPOSALS ON SUBJECT MAY BE FORTHCOMING. EC (ADINOLFI) REITERATED COMMUNITY VIEW THAT, WHILE WORK ON EXPORT CONTROLS NECESSARY AND IMPORTANT, IT WOULD NOT BE WILLING TO PAY VERY MUCH TO SEE IT THROUGH. ALL PARTICIPANTS FAMILIAR WITH CANADIAN AND AUSTRALIAN SENSITIVITIES ON SUBJECT AND AGREED LOW-PROFILE APPROACH (EVENTUALLY INCLUDING CERTAIN LDCS) WAS ADVISABLE FOR TIME BEING.

3. SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS--ESPECIALLY BY UKAWA--WERE CONSTRUCTIVE AND WELL-CONSIDERED, GIVEN FACT THAT PARTICIPANTS WERE SEEING PAPER FOR FIRST TIME. KEY SUGGESTIONS WERE (A) CONSIDER STARTING FROM RE-AFFIRMATION OF GATT ARTICLE XI:1; (B) GUIDELINES SHOULD CONFIRM PRINCIPLES IN GENERAL LANGUAGE RATHER THAN "QUOTING GATT"; (C) "CRITICAL SHORTAGE" DEFINITION SHOULD BE TIGHTER, IN MORE NEUTRAL FORM; AND (D) EXTREME CAUTION IN REFERRING TO EXPORT-CONTROL CONCESSIONS--LEST LDCS BE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY SUCH MEASURES EVEN MORE FREQUENTLY, FOR "LEVERAGE" PURPOSES. COMMENT: REGARDING POINT (B) IN PARTICULAR, WE EXPLAINED THAT SEEMING TO "QUOTE GATT" WAS INTENDED IN THAT INITIAL DRAFT TO REMIND DELS HDW SUBSTANTIAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CURRENT GATT REQUIREMENTS ARE. END COMMENT.

4. WE WILL ATTEMPT FURTHER REVISION OF DRAFT UNDERSTANDING, IN LIGHT OF PARTICIPANTS' COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS, PRIOR TO FOLLOW-UP SESSION WITH SAME GROUP DURING WEEK OF APRIL 3. (FYI: A NUMBER OF REVISIONS MADE IN INITIAL DRAFT PRIOR TO THIS SESSION SATISFIED COMMENTS CONTAINED IN REF B, WHICH NOT RECEIVED IN TIME FOR MEETING ITSELF.)

5. PARTICIPANTS RECOGNIZED NEED EVENTUALLY TO BRING LDCS INTO DISCUSSIONS ON SUBJECT--JAPANESE REPORTED "POSITIVE SOUNDINGS" RECENTLY FROM BRAZIL AND, CURIOUSLY, ARGENTINA--BUT UNABLE TO FORECAST PRECISELY WHEN TIME WILL BE RIPE.

6. DRAFTED BY MARK. CULBERT

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPORT CONTROLS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, TRADE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA04506
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780128-1079
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA USMTN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780333/aaaabbbp.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 303a1fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION STR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 GENEVA 3720, 78 STATE 68543
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3228835
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRAMEWORK--INFORMAL PLURILATERAL ON EXPORT CONTROLS \"UNDERSTANDING\"
TAGS: ETRD, MTN
To: STATE USEEC
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/303a1fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014